

**PATENT**

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

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In the Matter of the Application of: Kouji Imai

Serial No.: 10/671,928

Confirmation No.: 8294

Filed: September 26, 2003

For: **Wire Termination Apparatus**

Examiner: Livius Radu Cazan

Group Art Unit: 3729

Attorney Docket No.: 21334-1259  
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Mail Stop Amendment  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

I hereby certify that this paper is being electronically transmitted to the United States Patent and Trademark Office, addressed to Mail Stop Amendment, Commissioner for Patents, on May 23, 2006.

/sa/

Salvatore Anastasi

**AMENDMENT**

Sir:

In response to the Office action of February 23, 2006, and having a shortened statutory period for response set to expire on May 23, 2006, please amend the application as follows. Please charge any additional requisite fees relating to this amendment and response to Deposit Account No. 501581.

**Amendments to the Specification** being on page 2 of this paper.

**Amendments to the Claims** are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 3 of this paper.

**Remarks/Arguments** begin on page 6 of this paper.

**In the Specification:**

Please replace the paragraph beginning on page 19, line 1 with the following amended paragraph:

--An exemplary embodiment of the present invention has been described in detail above. However, the present invention is not limited to the embodiment described above. To the contrary, the scope of the present invention is given by the appended claims together with their full range of equivalents. Many other embodiments are possible within the scope of these claims. For example, as a structure for causing the guide member 40 to move downward, an independent air cylinder that drives the guide member 40 may be provided instead of the structure described in the embodiment above. Alternatively, the guide member 40 may be supported from below by a spring, and caused to descend against the force of the spring when pressed by the ram 10 during the downward motion thereof. As a further alternative, the guide member 40 may be ~~cause~~ caused to rotate away from the fluorescent tube 44 as a linked operation with the downward movement of the ram 10.--